

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in this application.

1 -26 (canceled).

27 (currently amended). A multi-analyte assay for determining a presence or absence of analytes in a sample, wherein the analytes are selected from the group consisting of antibodies and antigens, wherein said assay comprises the following steps:

(a) contacting a sample with a plurality of capture reagents that are homologs and/or orthologs of each other~~wherein the capture reagents have antigenic properties in common~~;

(b) measuring the reactivity of the sample with each capture reagent;

(c) identifying the least reactive capture reagent as a negative control and;

(d) comparing the reaction of the sample toward the capture reagents to the sample-specific negative control as determined in step (c) in order to determine the presence or absence of the analytes.

28 (cancelled).

29 (previously presented). The assay, according to claim 27, wherein the sample is selected from the group consisting of serum, tissue and urine.

30 (previously presented). The assay, according to claim 27, wherein the capture reagent is attached to a solid support selected from the group consisting of beads, wells, membranes and microarrays.

31 (cancelled).